

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of New York

Further inquiries: (716)843-5814

138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

June 17, 2005

DEFENDANT SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. RONALD KIEFFER

Kathleen M. Mehltritt, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that on June 16, 2005, Ronald Kieffer, age 55, of Wellsville, New York, was sentenced to 14 years in prison and placed on lifetime supervised release by the Honorable Charles J. Siragusa, United States District Court Judge, in connection with his guilty plea on January 31, 2005 to possessing child pornography, which carried a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a maximum of 20 years imprisonment, and a \$250,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the case, stated that on December 3, 2004, Kieffer dropped off his computer at a computer repair store. Kieffer told the owner of the store to take precautions to preserve the pictures that were stored

on the hard drive of the computer. While repairing the computer, the repair store technician discovered images of child pornography, and the FBI was contacted. The next day, December 4, 2004, Kieffer showed up at the FBI's office in Elmira and admitted to possessing child pornography on his computer and visiting numerous child pornography websites over the past four years.

It was determined that Kieffer possessed more than 300 images of child pornography. Some of the child pornography images depicted pre-pubescent minors or minors under twelve years old, and portrayed sadistic or masochistic conduct or other depictions of violence.

Kieffer had two prior convictions involving minor children.

The charges in this case were the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

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